

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4287
ANSWERED ON:06.09.2012
AVAILABILITY OF GROUNDWATER
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Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of groundwater availability in major cities including Kozhikode, Kochi and Trivandrum in Kerala apart from Delhi, etc.;
- (b) the measures being taken to either retain or increase the groundwater supply across the country, State-wise;
- (c) whether the water shortage in cities and towns is attributed to inadequate management skills and not on the quantity side;
- (d) if so, whether any study was carried out for the mismanagement in water supply in the country and if so, the results thereof; and
- (e) the fields attributed to mismanagement, the guidance extended to State Governments and methods to have a 24 hour piped water supply?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND WATER RESOURCES (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

- (a) The status of ground water availability in major cities falling in different blocks/ talukas/ mandals, including Kozhikode, Kochi and Trivandrum in Kerala including Delhi as per latest ground water resource assessment as on 2009 is given in Annexure I.
- (b) To augment ground water availability, Ministry of Water resources has been undertaking the following measures to promote rain water harvesting and artificial recharge:
 - # Circulation of Model Bill to regulate and control development and management of ground water to the States/ UTs.
 - # Implementation of pilot/ demonstrative projects on rain water harvesting and artificial recharge to demonstrate their effectiveness so that they can be replicated by the States under similar hydrogeological environments.
 - # Advising States for making rainwater harvesting mandatory.
 - # Issuance of directions by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) to Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of States/ Union Territories having over-exploited blocks to take all necessary measures to promote/ adopt artificial recharge to ground water/ rain water harvesting.
 - # Issuance of directions by CGWA to Chief Secretaries/ Administrators to take necessary action to adopt rain water harvesting/ artificial recharge on all the Government buildings.
 - # Issuance of directions by CGWA for implementation of ground water recharge measures along all National Highways, State Highways and other major roads, in the Stadia and in the Airports for promoting Rainwater Harvesting/ adoption of Artificial Recharge to Groundwater in the country (except in the water logged areas).
 - # Issuance of directions by CGWA to large and medium Industries using ground water in the over exploited and critical areas in the country (except in the water logged areas) to take up water conservation measures including recharge of ground water/rain water harvesting and adopt practices of treatment, recycle and reuse of waste water in their premises.
 - # Constitution of Advisory Council on Artificial Recharge to Ground Water by the Government to popularize the concept of artificial recharge among stakeholders as well as water managers.
 - # Institution of National Water Awards and National Water Excellence Awards to encourage Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) /Gram Panchayats/ Urban Local Bodies/ Institutions/ Corporate Sector and Individuals for adopting innovative practices of ground water augmentation by rainwater harvesting and artificial recharge, promoting water use efficiency, recycling re-use of water and creating awareness through people's participation.
 - # Organization of activities like mass awareness and training programmes, painting competition, displaying models in exhibitions and fairs, printing of Meghdoot cards, display of hoardings at prominent public places etc. by the Central Ground Water Board.

(c) & (d) & (e) Information is being collected.